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Churches of Christ in Vanuatu

Recently Mary and I spent one week in Vanuatu on holiday. During this time we visited each of the Churches of Christ missionaries in Vanuatu and learnt something of the work of our churches there.

The overall impression we had of the Conference in Vanuatu is that the churches are experiencing growth and, in some places, seeing movement in churches that have been static for some years. There are several churches that have made inquiries about the possibility of linking with Churches of Christ because they are currently not being given much help by their particular denomination. Also several churches in areas like Santo are developing outreach works in new areas.

The political situation in Vanuatu does not seem to have affected our churches at this stage. The week we spent in Vanuatu was spent on the islands and not in Port Vila, the capital, where most of the troubles have been.

One sign of the growth that is occurring in the churches was a series of baptisms on the weekend prior to our arrival. On the island of Tanna, which is in the southern area of Vanuatu, there were three baptisms on August 7. This area is



Charlesworth Bani (woodwork teacher) and Silas Bull (Principal) at Ranwadi Junior Secondary School

a recent development in Churches of Christ history and is significant in that the Churches of Christ work on Tanna is in locations where no other churches are currently involved. The local villages in this area have been asking for assistance with education and with the supply of pastors. The evidence of growth and the baptisms have given the Conference in Vanuatu a great boost.

On the same day (August 7) there were 16 baptisms (12 boys and four girls) at Ranwadl Junlor Secondary School, Central Pentecost. 14 of those baptised



Ruben and Mel De los Santos, a Filipino couple teaching at Ranwadi

were students at Ranwadi, one was a girl from a local village, Baravet, and the other was a male student from Melsisi Junior Secondary School, a Roman Catholic secondary school also in Central Pentecost. This is the largest number of baptisms at the school in over four years.

Over 200 attended the special service and feast that followed the baptisms. Several events were marked in the celebrations. The students who had taken part in the Secondary School sports in Santo were welcomed back. The soccer and volleyball teams had both made the finals and Tongken Bae had won a bronze medal in the 200 metres sprint.

Also there was a special farewell to Bill Bule during the day. He had just completed 18 months as chaplain to the school. Bill is leaving the school to take up a position of responsibility with the Conference in Santo. At the same time Pastor Japheth Garae was welcomed as the new school chaplain.

Further information on aspects of the missionaries' work and church life in Vanuatu will appear in subsequent issues.

— Chris Ambrose

COLLEGES ISSUE

N.S.W. THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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ADDRESS FOR ALL
CORRESPONDENCE
(Including all
subscription payments)
P.O. Box 101,
ESSENDON NORTH, VIC.,
3041

Telephone: (03) 379.1219 After hours: (03) 337.8349



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COMMENT



Church Management

When Jesus cast out the money changers from the temple, he opposed an accepted practice which we would all find very easy to condemn. One wonders how he would react to the conditions now. There may be no actual money tables to overturn, but all will agree that there are matters which invite correction and even drastic action. These include ineffective management and the absence of accountability.

Church management practices are in need of a review since they relate to the effective continuing witness of our church. As soon as it becomes clear that a church has entered a period of decline we should adopt some simple rules of review. This begins with a detailed appraisal of the situation, a definition of the areas of weakness and the possible initiatives to strengthen them. This is a systematic and impartial examination of the conditions which call for correction. In no way should it be intended as a criticism. It is a search for a prescription, a prescription for survival and growth.

In these circumstances officers inexperienced in the outreach, finance and management skills required to pronounce upon such a situation are frequently out of their depth and adverse trends in growth and leadership are permitted to continue to a point where rehabilitation becomes difficult. Attendance records are only one specific measurement against which results can be gauged. There are a number of other areas which bear upon church health including spirituality, pastoral care, finance and planning. All need to be examined. The decline in so many of our churches is evidence of the necessity for such examination.

Since methods for measuring administrative performance exist, and are available, they should be used. Without them the board will almost certainly experience difficulty in isolating the causes of the decline and recommending corrective measures. As a result, decisions are delayed or are indecisive.

In everyday affairs directors are selected because of their proven skills and training and are usually remunerated. They are accountable for the implementation of company policy and for the results. Whilst the Bible provides the policy, the administration in our churches is relatively free of controls and left to a committee whose elected members often lack management skills, experience or training. They are unpaid and not held responsible for results. Yet their position is of utmost importance.

Performance standards should be applied within the local church, monitored continuously, analyzed and understood. In the day of computers this is elementary. There are clear and well-defined management rules used in other enterprises to ensure that results are achieved. In the case of our church, where the results are much more important, it is necessary to fix targets for growth, measure the results regularly and report to the congregation.

A regular and systematic evaluation of all the factors of church health is essential for effective service. This evaluation should be the responsibility of every elected board of officers in all our churches, updated and reviewed regularly.

Universities encourage their staff to keep abreast of developments outside of campus. They are encouraged to return periodically to field work in their chosen subject. By so doing they retain a fresh outlook towards their job and the results they achieve are more measurable. Perhaps church administrators and teachers could gain from a similar practice. Our colleges, also, should be able to demonstrate in the field the effectiveness of what they teach in their classrooms.

Areas for improvement worthy of debate include the following:

- 1. Relevant, comparable and embracive statistics from all churches, monitored continuously, should be available.
- 2. A central, independent committee of experienced managers should be established to assist in ascertaining areas of weakness. Local church boards to have access to that committee.
 - 3. Performance records of all pastors should be maintained.
- 4. Senior departmental officers should be given targets of performance and made accountable for results. Regular performance reports should be publicised.
- 5. Local church boards should establish medium and long-term plans for growth and be encouraged to achieve those targets.
- 6. Inter-church comparisons (found essential in industry) should be available to local churches so that each may measure its relative strengths and weaknesses against comparable norms.
- 7. Research programs should be established, publicised and maintained.

—Stan Gilmour

Husband and wife ministry for Belconnen

On August 28 the Belconnen, ACT, church commissioned Heather Potter as a pastoral minister. Heather will minister in partnership with her husband Paul, forming an historic new team ministry within the Belconnen church.

Since Heather's appointment is part of the ACT Conference structure, the commissioning was led by Jacqui Pederson, the ACT Conference President. Belconnen elders participated through the laying on of hands and prayer for Heather and the congregation as partners in ministry.

The Belconnen elders recommended the employment of Heather for two days a week in this ministry in response to a 40% growth in church attendance in the recent years and Canberra's moving population. Heather brings to her call special gifts in interpersonal relationships and small group leadership. Her brief is especially to promote the bonding of people, both those on the growing edge of the church and those within the fellowship, to develop small groups for fellowship and spiritual growth, and to participate in pastoral care and outreach



Jacqueline Furier commissioning Heather Potter

through visitation and counselling.

The elders and board sought confirmation from the church for this new ministry through its recent Stewardship Education program—the congregation responded with a 40% increase in weekly giving!

GROWING SPIRITUALLY

Spiritual water

Behind our house one summer was an unusual sight: a rose bush with bursting buds and tender green shoots. I wondered how this could be when, in the prevailing drought that has scorched the rest of our lawn, everything was withering and drying. Of course, the rose bush was getting water, but from where? On closer inspection I found the drain opening from our air conditioner was directly above the rose bush. It emptied squarely around the rose. The rose was rooted in soil with a supply of life-giving water.

How much is this like those who receive the living water from Jesus Christ. Our Lord said, "He who believes in Me shall never thirst." Jesus assured the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well, "The water that I shall give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

What is the spiritual water that keeps us alive and makes us fruitful during the drought of sin prevailing in our world? God gives us various cups to drink from: His divine grace, the gift of eternal salvation in Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins by what Jesus did on the cross of Calvary, fellowship with other Christians, and fellowship through the bread and cup.

It was His body and His blood shed on that cross for us that enable us today to share that living water. By remembering we share that living water. By remembering that He provided this spiritual water that we would never die of thirst, we pay proper worship to Him around His table. As by faith and obedience we drink this living water, we receive eternal life.

—L.A. Morris
Reprinted from "Christian Standard,"
the journal of the Churches of Christ/Christian
Churches (Independents), USA.

New Connexions celebrate 10 years

For 10 years the young people of Maglil Church of Christ, SA, have been presenting gospel musicals to audiences throughout the state. We are proud that New Connexions have maintained such enthusiasm and wide support for so many years. During that time 150 children have participated in musicals.

This year we are travelling 'down memory lane' with songs you will remember from God's Kids, Bullfrogs and Butterfiles, the Kid's Praise series and oth-

ers. You'll meet Psalty again with Charity and the Church mice in Kid's Praise 4.

We invite old friends and new to share in our birthday celebration on the weekends of October 28 and 29 and November 4 and 5. Performances will be in the Auditorium at Strathmont Centre, Grand Junction Road, Gilles Plains.

Tickets are available from Helen Smith (08) 337 8328. Adults \$6, child/concession \$3, family (two adults, three children) \$15.



SWANSTON STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST Melbourne

(Cnr Swanston & Lt. Lonsdale Sts.)

Sunday

9.00 a.m. & 11 a.m.

Worship & Communion

Services

7.00 p.m.

Gospel Celebration

Wednesday

1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Lunchtime Service For further enquiries, please ring (03) 663 3884

Vice-Principal appointed



The Board of the Churches of Christ in New South Wales Theological College has decided to recognise the significant role of the Wollongong campus and therefore the senior minister of the Wollongong church, Barry McMurtrle, in the College's work, by appointing him 'Vice-

Principal in charge of Wollongong campus'.

This is intended to describe Mr McMurtrie's responsibility for a particular area in the life of the College and is not intended to convey any suggestion that a viceprincipal is necessarily to be a successor to the Principal.

At the QUALCON '88 conference (Sydney Hilton, August 10), keynote speaker John Smith, Director of Care and Communication Concern Ltd. spoke to 500 business and government executives on the topic of "Quality of Life & Relationships." Smith cited breakdown of relationships as possibly the single most costly factor to our nation's economy and pointed to the tragic effect on business, social and family life as a result.

VISITING CANBERRA? Stay with a Church Family

A number of Canberra church families offer accommodation in their homes at basic bed and breakfast rates to help raise funds for "Home Mission" extensions in the ACT. If you would like to enjoy friendly "one of the family" hospitality in Canberra write for particulars to:

Pat & Warwick Wright Barbara Kennedy 28 Kidston Cres., **CURTIN 2605**

6 Sharp Place, **MELBA 2615**

Phone (062)81.3088 Phone (062)58.1360

Advance bookings appreciated

Grandfather and grandson team up



Les Stewart

Take a normal youth and ask him how he would feel about going on a holiday with his grandfather and you would expect an unenthusiastic response. Not so with Jason Jeffers, for he knows that his grandad is well able to provide him with a good time. His grandad, Les Stewart, has been trekking through rugged terrain for well over 20 years. In January next year he will lead the Explorers 20th Anniversary Tassle

Les will oversee three groups of hikers set to embark on the magnificent Cradle Mountain-

Lake St Clair National Park. Nine days of trekking through some of the most spectacular scenery in Australia, coupled with a tour of the historic Port Arthur region, will be a great experience for young Jason, who is only fourteen

The Trek is open to all those 14 years and over and costs \$400 (return air fare from Melbourne). All inquiries regarding the Trek should be directed to the Department of Mission, Education and Development, 52 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne 3000. Phone: (03) 662 2377.

REGISTER NOW!

EXPLORERS TASSIE TREK '89

20th ANNIVERSARY

January 5 to 17, 1989 Cost: \$400 (ex Melbourne)

HURRY—PLACES ARE LIMITED

Inquiries to: Department of Mission, Education and Development,

52 LaTrobe Street, **MELBOURNE Vic. 3000** Phone: (03) 662 2377

Carlingford College and Wollongong Institute unite

It is tremendous to be able to announce the combining of the Churches of Christ in NSW Theological College (commonly known as Carlingford College) and the Institute for Contemporary Church Leadership (a ministry of the Wollongong Church of Christ).

The Board of the College will recognise the significant role of the senior minister at Wollongong, Barry McMurtrle within the united body. Dr Carol Preston, the Dean at Wollongong, will also be welcomed as a faculty member.

Dr Kelth Farmer, the Principal, said that he is really excited about the opportunity the College now has not only to train people very effectively for general ministry, but also to offer excellent specialist training through a local church which is alive and grow-

ing. The merger also indicates the College's desire to relate the training to the local church scene.

Some students will undertake specialist training at Wollongong in Church Growth, Creative Ministry (particularly music) or Youth Ministry. For those who are doing the fourth year Diploma program this specialised training will be their third and fourth years and for those doing the four-year Bachelor of Theology/Diploma program it will be their fourth year.

All students will be at Carlingford for the first two years of their training and will have the opportunity during their second year to apply to do specialist training. Carlingford will continue to teach the B.Th./Diploma and Diploma courses in a similar way to the present for those desiring general training for ministry.



Dr Keith Farmer and Barry McMurtrle

Anyone wishing to know in more detail the training offered by the combining of the Carlingford College and the Wollongong Institute should write to either: Dr

L. Berthelsen, PO Box 140, Carlingford, NSW 2118 or Dr C. Preston, Wollongong Church of Christ, 1-3 Regent St, Wollongong, NSW 2500.

Internship

One of the comparatively recent innovations at Carlingford has been the introduction of the Internship Program. In this scheme students spend the first part of their final year of training as full-time interns in churches. So that they can afford the time to do this, they carry a heavier academic load in their second and third years of study.

All who have been involved in the program have expressed their appreciation of internship, believing that the experience prepares them for the pressure of full-time ministry more realistically than the traditional style of student ministry.

Jim Bracegirdle has been an intern at the Thornlle church in Western Australia this year. Here he writes of his experience.

On a cold winter morning a young girl took her life. Rachael was barely 18 years old. Her mother and father thought that they were the model parents and loved her dearly. On the morning she died, a suicide note was found on her typewriter. It read;

"This note I leave for my mother and father who gave me everything in life except a reason

It was Jesus who said, "I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10 (NIV)

Fullness of life is something everybody is seeking. Rachael needed a reason to live, others need hope, peace, direction and purpose. More and more society today is realising that these 'qualities of life' are not found in power, status or possessions but in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The world is in a mess and the pressures of life that all of us must face become more complex with the passing of each day. The result of which is a demand for fully-equipped ministers to shepherd the flock. The charge of Christ to Peter was "Feed my sheep." John 21:17 Our goal as church leaders is to "proclaim him [Jesus] admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ" Col 1:28.

The task is great and the society in which we must minister is complex, the need to be both theologically trained and practically

equipped is obvious. The Internship Program offers this level of equipping for ministry. Each minister in training who undertakes this program receives the opportunity to gain six months experience in the field.

During this time each student defines their individual gift areas, gains first-hand experience of ministry, learns what it means to be a servant, grows in personal maturity and faith and above all of these gains the necessary courage and confidence to be a leader of the future. The Internship Program is a positive, practical step to allow each minister in training to realise his/her full potential.

-J. Bracegirdle

Exchange lectureship

Dennis Nutt, lecturer at Carlingford, spent the first semester this year as an exchange lecturer at Milligan College, Tennessee, USA. His counterpart at Carlingford was Dr Henry Webb.

Milligan is a liberal arts college run under the auspices of our American brotherhood. It offers a bachelor's degree in the main fields of learning as well as providing undergraduate training, and so has a significant Bible faculty.

Dennis became a part of this Bible faculty and taught in the areas of New Testament, Church History and Greek. All 'freshmen' (first years) have to take a course in Bible Survey involving both Old and New Testaments, and in this course he took two classes. His Church History courses covered the period from the Reformation to 1900 as well as another on Puritanism and Religious Awakenings. Dennis was accompanied by his wife, Pam, and daughter, Joanna.

Dr Webb lectured in Dennis' place at Carlingford. He too taught the Church History course, and he and his wife, Em, were well received by all at Carlingford. Similar future exchanges with Milligan are a distinct possibility.

(381)5

BECOME A FOUNDATION STUDENT AT MULGRAVE

In 1989 the College will have a brand new campus, which we believe to be the best facility of its kind in Australia. It includes

•a well-equipped, modern double-storey library with magnificent views to the Dandenongs (as well as books!)

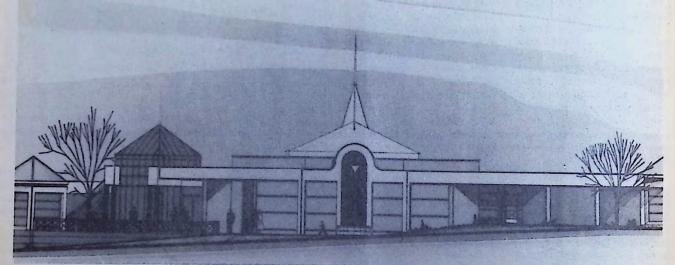
•spacious lecture rooms, tutorial rooms and a lecture theatre (which, for a while, will double as a chapel)

•an excellent student centre

•apartments for married couples (with or without children) and single students' accommodation

The new campus is the ideal setting for the wide range of courses taught by our excellent (and expanding) faculty.

Why not be part of it?



Teaching and administration building of the new campus

JOIN US AT COB

Stimulating, challenging and inspirational.. words which spring to mind when reflecting upon our time as students at COB.

We have found that the interaction of studies, community life and the care of the lecturers cre-

ates a positive environment in which to explore the reality and relevance of our faith for these times.

It's a great place.. why don't you come along and find out for yourself?



Graham and Shella Woodward with Evan

ANNUAL OFFERING

SUNDAY 2ND OCTOBER COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

•The College of the Bible has serviced the churches for over 80 years.
•Give generously for the ongoing work of the College.



PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS? SEMINAR 14-15 OCTOBER 1988

The seminar will commence with tea at 6.30pm on Friday and will conclude at 5.00pm on Saturday 15 October.

This event is sponsored by the College at no cost to participants.

Mr G. Wigney, Registrar, College of the Bible, 7 Elm Road, Glen Iris, Vic., 3146	
Dear Mr Wigney, I/we would love to come to the Prospective Students' Seminar.	
Please send me/us information about the various courses offered by COB. Mr Mrs Miss Address	
Phone	

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Letters to the Editor limit is 200 words.

THE PRINCIPLE OF LIBERTY To the Editor.

I write to express appreciation of E.W. Roffey's article: "Alexander Campbell An Apostle of Liberty" ("A.C." August 20). The limits of space inhibited a full statement concerning this important principle as advocated in our historic witness.

The emphasis on "No creed but Christ", the ancient saying, "In things essential unity, in things non-essential liberty, in all things charity," the distinction between fact and theory, faith and opinion, with the advocacy of liberty in matters of theory and opinion, and proposition 6 in the "Declaration and Address", all call for careful analysis and consideration as providing a basic fabric for the principle of liberty.

This important principle guards against the use of "unwritten creeds" which may be used in heresy hunting and against differences becoming an occasion of

division.

Yours for an emphasis on both liberty and authority as against either licence or authoritarianism,

—E.L. Williams (Glen Waverley, Vic.) POLITICAL LITERATURE IN CHURCHES

To the Editor,

I am in complete agreement with your concerns about the League of Rights and the Logos Foundation ("AC" June 11). Admittedly these organisations have woken the church from its political slumber, but they have sent the church headlong into uncontrolled panic.

I believe that any Christian organisation should hold to at least four principles and these principles should apply to political literature in God's house.

(1) That electoral support be gained by appealing to the mind and not to the emotion. To appeal to the emotion proves that you have nothing to offer to the mind.

(2) That they address people

and governments with the correct titles. To refer to governments as the Hawke government or the Greiner government is disrespectful, and to refer to them without their title of Prime Minister or Premier shows a disregard for God's command to respect those in authority (Rom 13:1-7).

(3) That they should praise as well as criticise. A complete negative attitude towards a group of people reflects a lack of Christian love towards that group.

(4) To be truthful at all times. To tell half-truths or to omit facts to gain political advantage is not acceptable. Jesus Christ is the truth and nothing should be done to make the public doubt that.

I believe that the Logos Foundation has failed in all four areas.

—G.W. Williamson (Homsby, NSW)

RESTORATION MOVEMENT'S MESSAGE

To the Editor,

The Bicentenary of the birth of Alexander Campbell on September 12 recalls the emergence of a movement to restore New Testament Christianity by the rejection of all man-made creeds, practices and traditions, and the acceptance of the Bible as the inspired Word of God.

All that the pioneers of the movement set out to do was to promulgate afresh the teaching of the Apostolic church. Their work was designed to completely restore at once the pristine purity and glory of the church.

I believe that the Restoration Movement still has a vital part to play in calling people back to believe and practise "the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints." However it seems to me that, for many, acceptance is more readily received than rejection when it comes to error, and that there is a hesitancy, on the part of some, to state clearly the New Testament message in its entirety. For example, how many times do we hear the mention of baptism when the message of salvation is proclaimed? Yet it is

mentioned time and time again in the New Testament as one of the important human responses to divine grace in Christ.

-F.D. Craig (Newcastle, NSW)

The Chilean navy has decided not to remove the evangelistic ship "Logos" from rocks where it foundered in January. Authorities also decided to bring no action against the "Logos" captain, the owners, or the Argentinian pilot.

After surveying 13,000 people two American sociologists have concluded that contrary to popular belief, people who live together before marriage are twice as likely to be divorced within a decade as those who live apart.

There are four times the number of Pentecostals/Charlsmatics in the world as there were 10 years ago, according to figures released by Dr David Barrett, editor of the "World Christian Encyclopedia". Numbering 277 million they now comprise 17.5% of the world's Christian population.

Luis Palau was the keynote speaker at Jakarta '88, a locally-sponsored conference for Indonesian pastors and evangelists held August 6-8 in Jakarta, attended by about 4,000. Indonesia has a population of 168 million, of which 135 million are Muslims.

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

THE CHURCH'S AGENDA

To the Editor,

Years ago we used to talk about letting the world write the church's agenda. We meant that the agenda should include such things as hunger, poverty, justice, discrimination, exploitation and the like. Of course we were right about these things being on the church's agenda. But I'm not too sure that the world cared much about whether or not the church had an agenda or what was on it.

We had the idea that putting these social issues on the agenda would make the church seem relevant in the eyes of the world, and that the world would join

the church. It didn't!

I've been musing about what sort of agenda the world would really set for the church if it had its way. I've thought of a few items:

 Giving the world the advantages of Christianity without its disciplines.

Keeping the church's nose out of it when the world wants to slacken moral restrictions.

 Sticking to its job of getting people into heaven and not trying to get heaven into commerce, politics or economics.

4. Accepting Australia as a pluralistic society when it suits the world, but affirming Australia as a Christian nation when we need God on our side in time of crisis.

5. Keeping up the myth that a good funeral oration on behalf of the deceased will not only convince the mourners that he was a good Christian, but will also convince God who will take him to heaven on the strength of it.

That's it for 'starters'. No doubt your readers could add items to the agenda!

-TERTIUS

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

CHRISTIAN GIRL, 20, working in the City requires board or accommodation in inner Melbourne South Eastern suburbs. Phone (056) 23 1420 Bronwyn after 7.30

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BUILDERS

IAN & L.A. McDONALD Carpenters and builders. Renovations kitchens and bathrooms. All jobs large and small. For free quotes please ring (03) 557.1257. 41 Somers St., Bentleigh.

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50th Anniversary

CHRISTIAN

GUEST HOME 139 Atherton Road,

Oakleigh

October 2nd P.S.A. 2.00pm

(Formal ceremony

3.00pm)

Suggested dress 1930's style All invited

IDEAL ACCOMMODATION FOR ELDERLY MARRIED

COUPLE

Recently renovated cottage-one bedroom, en suite, loungeroom and kitchenette.

Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh

Homelike environment, beautiful gardens, activities, meals and laundering provided, moderate personal care assistance available if needed. Inquiries: Admission Officer,

52 LaTrobe St. Melbourne 3000 Phone: (03) 662 1411

COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE



A legacy perpetuates your interests in church planting. youth and children's work, evangelism, educational services and camping. A legacy is your commitment to future growth and progress.

 Terry McCredden (Treasurer) **DEPARTMENT OF MISSION, EDUCATION** AND DEVELOPMENT

52 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne Vic. 3000.

Word has been received that all SIM personnel in Khartoum, Sudan, are okay following flooding in the area. They are inconven-ienced by lack of basic services, but this is nothing compared to loss of homes, food, household effects of Sudan Interior Church people and thousands of others. immediate priority is for funds from which SIMAID could respond to needs as they are made known. Tax-deductible donations may be made to: SIMAID-Sudan Flood Victims, PO Box 371, Miranda

The great convergence of 500 cyclists on Canberra is about to start. The Perth team involved in the Bible Society's "Bike for Bibles" left on September 3, for the ride across the width of Australia, which will bring them into Canberra as part of the team of cyclists arriving there from all over Australia, on Saturday October 8.

Families fleeing the war, drought and marauding tribesmen in southern Sudan are selling their

NEW HOPE CAN BE YOURS DIAL (03) 11610

EMMAUS. MURRUMBEENA CHRISTIAN GUEST HOME. OAKLEIGH

Single rooms with shared facilities Homelike environment with beautiful gardens, activities, meals and laundering provided. Personal Care assistance provided if needed. Further information or inspection by arrangement contact:

Admission Officer, 52 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne 3000 Phone: (03) 662 1411 children into slavery, in the hope that the children will at least be fed until they can return at some time and redeem them. They also need the money to help the rest of the family survive the journey north to Khartoum or west into Ethiopia. In Sahafa teenage boys are fetching about \$100.

Bangladesh has again been hit by serious flooding. Two-thirds of the country is under water and 350 people dead so far. 36 World Vision projects are awash and families of 3,000

sponsored children badly hit, many with their homes swept away. The agency will provide \$50,000 for aid, most of it food aid, as well as medical supplies,

Uganda's Anglican leader, Archbishop Yona Okoth, says treason allegations against him are aimed at causing divisions in the church. The allegations claim the Anglican leader was involved in an aborted 1986 coup attempt. The Archbishop dismisses the allegations as baseless and concocted.

THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT, NSW

is seeking an application for the position of

OFFICE SECRETARY

at 216 Pennant Hils Rd, Carlingford

We are looking for an experienced secretary who is skillled in typing and general office procedures. Word processing experience and shorthand would be an advantage.

Hours of work will be 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday and an appropriate salary will be negotiated.

If you are seeking a challenging and worthwhile field of Christian serviceperhaps this is the opportunity for you.

Applications in writing should be submitted to:

Charles Wilson **Executive Director** PO Box 140 Carlingford 2118

MILDURA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Official Opening & Thanksgiving Service

CHAPEL EXTENSION & NEW FOYER

Sunday, October 2nd, 4pm Occasional address: Gerald Rose, Conf. Pres. Past members welcome

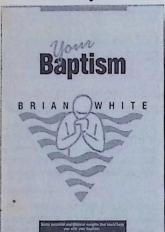
Church family tea 5.30pm

Gospel service 7pm

BOOKS

YOUR BAPTISM

by Brian White (Vital Publications) \$1.50.

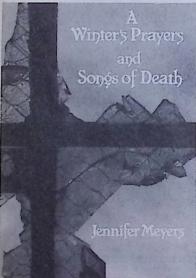


This booklet has been designed to answer some of the questions often asked about baptism in Churches of Christ, Questions dealt with include What is baptism?, Who should be baptised ... and how?, baptised or sprinkled? and why should I be baptised? The booklet has been designed to be read primarily by youth and for those who have not had a lot of contact with baptism within our churches. The language and style make the booklet very readable and the information is well set out. At various stages in the booklet there are reflection questions that should help the inquirer understand more of the significance of baptism in their life.

Copies are available from the Federal Board of Christian Education, 52 LaTrobe Street, Melbourne 3000 (phone (03) 662 2377) and would be suitable for any inquirers about baptism or for discipleship classes.

A WINTER'S PRAYERS AND SONGS OF DEATH by Jennifer Meyers (Joint Board of Christian

Education) \$8.95



These poems are a cry from the heart of Jennifer Meyers who suffered grief and confusion from a number of causes-the early death from cancer of her mother, the cot death of a nephew, her own protracted illness, the collapse of her marriage and the failure of her university course, Trying to make sense of these tragedies, and to blend them into her faith, she has written some profoundly moving poems which, in simple personal language, speak to us about the problems of suffering, death and the loss of hope. On a spiritual level the poems will be helpful to those who have endured

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similar tragedies.

The book is also recommended to those who struggle to express their faith and their experiences in poetic form. Jennifer Meyers writes briefly with one clear idea or emotion in each poem, even when the emotion is turnoil. There is the effective use of small details. In "Crossing" the poet conveys, in only 11 lines the surge of hope that comes to one who has been in a dark country; in "Presence (Body and Blood)" there is the whisper of resurrection. There are fresh, personal references to nature and to religious symbols, but these are always related to her own private agony and search for meaning and reassurance.

-B.M.W

THE BARNABAS FACTOR The power of encouragement

by Derek Wood (Inter-Varsity Press)



We first meet Barnabas in Acts 4 presenting the proceeds of a land sale to the apostles. A Levite, known to the young church as Joseph the Cypriot. his name was soon changed to Bamabas: 'son of encouragement'. It was he who bravely introduced the former persecutor, Saul, to the doubting Jerusalem church. In Barnabas' courage. patience and diplomacy, the author likens him to missing hostage negotiator Terry Waite.

This very readable book parallels the story of Bamabas with the life of a sictious, but I suspect, fairly typical suburban church. Situations where trustration, hurt and misunderstanding have prevailed are exposed to the power of loving encouragement. Derek Wood gently examines the effective-

ness and biblical basis of various forms of encouragement and provides several pertinent points for reflection at the end of each chapter.

It is an irony of the Australian character that churchgoers who spend Saturday afternoon barracking without inhibitions for their favourite sporting team will be reduced to dispensing platitudes on Sunday. Encouragement should not be the patronising comments we sometimes hand out. At times it needs to be unequivocal, even blunt. Sometimes words are inadequate and what's needed is our silent company. This very practical book should be read by all Christians who believe that 'peacemaking begins with me'.

-Graeme Addicott

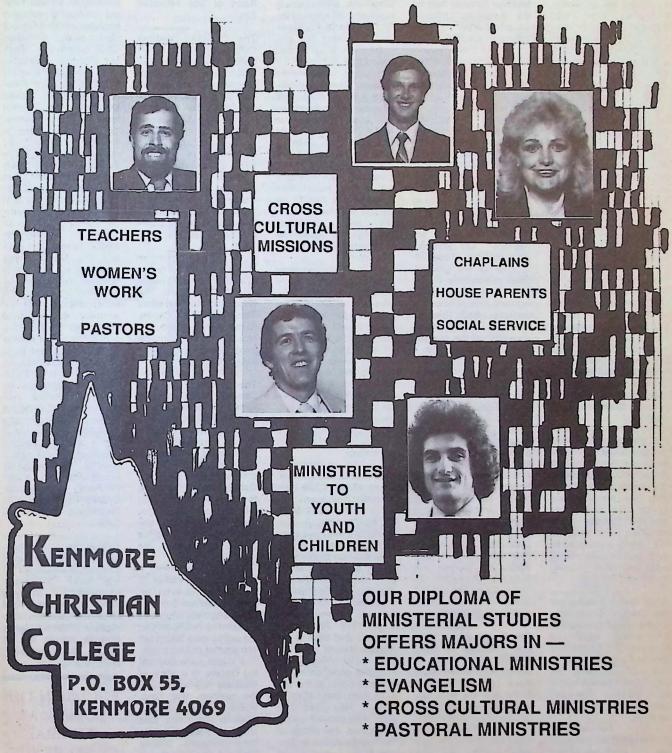


It's wonderful to grow old—If you can remember to stay young while you are doing it.

KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

77

TRAINING FOR A VARIETY OF MINISTRIES



CHOOSE FROM A VARIETY OF COURSES

HAPPENINGS

The venue for the Second Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization, which was to have been Singapore, will be Manila, Philippines, from 11-20 July 1989.

The Christian Broadcasting System (CBS) of Seoul, Korea, has begun airing a daily program of the Bible being read at dictation speed for listeners in North Korea and China.

The "Global Consultation on World Evangelization by AD 2000 and Beyond" will be held January 5-8, 1989 in Singapore. Many of the sessions will allow participants to interact and find out exactly what others are doing to carry out world evangelization.

Dramatic increases in the number of Thai Christians have resulted in the establishment of 400 prayer cells among one congregation in Bangkok. Dr Kriengsak Chareonwongsak, pastor of Hope of Bangkok Church, said that 60 new members are joining his groups churches each week.

Following a series of violent attacks on staff members, St Martin-in-the-Fields, an Anglican parish in the central part of London, has hired security guards. The church has long been a haven for the homeless and troubled, but, reports a priest on its staff, people with mental problems have recently threatened the staff.

At its meeting in August the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches extended General Secretary Emilio Castro's term to the end of 1992, by which time he will be 65. His current five-year term expires at the end of 1989.

As a result of the merger of two US members of the World Council of Churches, the WCC membership total has dropped from 307 to 306. The new Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has assumed the WCC memberships formerly held by the American Lutheran Church and the Lutheran Church in America.

administrative board of the conference of Roman Catholic bishops in southern Africa has condemned recent bombings in shopping areas and public places In South Africa. The bishops said, "There can be no justification for these indiscriminate bombings. But apartheld, with its built-in structural violence, is the root cause of the violent reactions we deplore." The bishops also criticise recent attempts by the government information minister to "intimidate church leaders into slience on matters which they, in the light of their understanding of the gospel, believe that they have a duty to comment on."

Among the sponsors of Prophets' Pulpit are Archbishop Penman, SU Victoria, AFES and the House of the Gentle Bunyip, It takes place on the last Sunday of each month, 9pm at St Stephen's Anglican Church, Church St, Richmond, Vic. On Sep-tember 25 the speakers will be Archdeacon Alan Nichols, and Diane Heath (from the Movement for Ordination for Women). The topic: 'Equality and Justice for Women and Men', On October 30 Archbishop David Penman will speak on 'A Cry for Freedom in South Africa'.

The Anglican and Uniting Churches in Mont Albert, Vic., share a clergy couple. Rev Harry Kerr is an Anglican priest and his wife Rev Pam Kerr is an ordained Uniting Church minister.

Nigel Goodwin of Genesis Arts, London, will visit Melbourne October 7-10. Nigel has a worldwide ministry encouraging artists. In 1971 he helped to found, and for 10 years directed, Arts Centre Group, an organisation of Christians professionally involved in all areas of the Arts and Media. For inquiries concerning the program for Nigel's visit phone (03) 707 1615.

Graham Carsiake's ministry as WA PGA Golf Chapiain has been so well accepted that several golfers have sought him out. PGA Officials have recommended to a number of players that they talk with Graham, which they have done. Graham is a part of the Sports & Leisure Ministry team working throughout Australia with professional sports people.

In Kampuchea, where malnutrition remains wide-spread, over 600,000 hectares of good land cannot be cultivated because of lack of seeds, fertilizer and other requirements. The country used to export food before war caused devastation. A Force Ten project will concentrate on developing irrigation systems, providing machinery, seeds and fertilizers and training local people in agriculture.

As a church bell tolled 40 times about 1,200 worshippers gathered in the Oude Kerk (Old Church) in Amsterdam, in August, for a two hour service of thanksgiving and rededication commemorating the 40th anniversary of the founding of the World Council of Churches.

The NSW Parliament adopted and passed the motion moved by Fred Nile, leader of the Call to Australia party, calling for the prohibition of the film "The Last Temptation of Christ". Rev Fred Nile said, "This vote will greatly strengthen the efforts of the Federal Attorney General, Lionel Bowen, to prevent the importation of this film which will offend not only Christians, but other

religious groups such as the Muslim community, who have publicly supported my call for a prohibition of this offensive film."

The Christian Medical Fellowship (Vic.) is offering a Christian perspective on AIDS. Their program will be held at the Templestowe Baptist Church on September 30 and October 1. There is a charge for each session. Other meetings are planned for September 21, 7.30pm, St Martins Church, Drummond St, Carlton; October 4 and 5, 7.30pm, MAF Hall, 5 Court St, Box Hill. Information from (03) 458

Bendigo will be the centre of a Bill Newman Crusade from 23-30 October. The crusade will be held in the Tom Flood Sports Centre, Barnard Crt, Bendigo. The crusade office may be contacted by phoning (054) 41 4760.

The United Church of Canada voted recently to allow homosexuals into the ordained ministry. The Church is the largest Protestant denomination in Canada. After a six-hour long discussion the Church's General Council agreed to a motion stating that all church members, regardless of sexual orlentation, were 'eligible to be considered' for ordination.

The Bishop of Namibia, Rt Rev James Kauluma, recently visited the school in a township near Windhoek because he had heard that the police were taking action against striking pupils. The pupils were boycotting classes in a show of solidarity with schools in the northern war zone. Police began throwing students into a van, then shooting rubber bullets indiscriminately. Bishop Kauluma, was hit in the leg and back. Police made 40 arrests at the school.

Tower Systems International (Aust) Pty Ltd (formerly Fletcher DP Services Pty Ltd) has developed an ecumenical computer software package entitled Church Management Solution. CMS automates Member, Financial, Resource and Special Project work. It provides information which many churches would not have time to gather today, enabling more informed decisions to be made. Sensitive information is appropriately protected from unauthorised access. inguirles to : PO Box 299. St Klida 3182, phone (03) 537 2811.

28,000 families the Sydney City Mission helps annually through its family welfare centres will be adversely affected by the current State/Federal government dispute over emergency relief funding distribution. The Federal government is seeking to offload responsibility for the distribution of Emergency Relief fund onto the states. Meanwhile, poor families are suffering. The Mission is seeking to raise \$300,000 to keep its 7 family welfare centres operating for the next 3 months. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to: Family Crisis Appeal, Sydney City Mission, 28 Regent St, Chippendale

1988 is the tercentenary of the death of John Bunyan, best-known for his book "Pilgrim's Progress". Bunyan wrote numerous books about the Christian life, a number of them while he was in prison for 12 years for preaching without a licence.

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE AT FEDERAL CONFERENCE, CANBERRA 1989

Bomb in Council of Churches building

Khotso House, the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches in Johannesburg, was destroyed by a bomb blast early on the morning of August 31. The building also housed the Lutheran Church. Church of Province of South Africa, Black Sash and various human rights and ecumenical organisations. It appears that the bomb was directed at the section occupied by the SACC.

Following the explosion the offices were cordoned off by the police. There are fears that the sixstorey building will be condemned.

The SACC General Secretary, Rev Frank Chikane said that the bomb was planted by people who "want us to join in the lie that everything is okay with apartheid."

SACC has drawn fire this year from government quarters for its uncompromising stand against the apartheid dogma. Recently SACC organised the church leaders call for the boycott of the forthcoming elections. They have also stood by the 'end conscription' campaign and 143 young whites who declared their intention to refuse conscription.

At its recent meeting in Hannover the Central Committee commended the South African churches "for their Christian witness of resolute opposition to apartheid." It is now the responsibility of the South African govemment to find those responsible for the bombing and see that justice is done. The government should also desist from making threats which fuel animosity.

Churches and community organisations in the city have offered office space to Khotso House tenants.

"What Will I Say?"

It was dusk. As I walked down to the village I wondered what I could say to Umbre, whose eldest son had just died from cancer at the age of 20. What could I say to a man who had seen five of his children die in infancy, and had now lost the first to reach manhood?

As I neared the house where the body lay I heard him crying in the traditional PNG way, "O my son, my son." I climbed up into the house and sat with the mourners. There was nothing I could say. I could only take his hand in sympathy.

Other relatives arrived and began to cry loudly. I saw Umbre go to the edge of the house and begin to speak. The crying was so loud I couldn't hear what he said.

Soon he came over and sat beside me, explaining, "I was just telling the family that we will have no ritual for discovering the sorcerer who killed my boy. There

-Fay Christensen, Chungribu, PNG



will be no payback for this death. My son was God's and it is only God who can determine the length of anyone's life. God wanted my son with him in heaven and that's where he is now. He had given his life to Christ. I am happy to think of him there with God. Let's not make God sad by leaving his way.'

And I knew then that I didn't need to say anything. The Word was already there.

Australian Churches launch appeal for Bangladesh

The Australian Council of Churches has launched an urgent appeal to aid the victims of floods in Bangladesh. Rev. Peter Holden, National Director of the ACC's Commission for World Christian Action, launched the appeal in conjunction with the Sudan Flood Appeal.

Both countries have been devastated by flooding. The ACC is in partnership with the churches in both Sudan and Bangladesh and the appeal will enable these churches to aid people who have suffered.

At least 25 million of Bangla-

desh's 110 million people have lost their homes in the flood. The floods have covered three quarters of the country.

Although there is literally water everywhere drinking water is in short supply resulting in a diarrhoea epidemic which has pushed the death toll to at least 1,400.

The Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB) will provide flood relief with money raised by the appeal.

Readers who wish to contribute to either the Bangladesh or Sudan appeals should contact the Aus-

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trallan Council of Churches at Box C199, Clarence Street P.O., Sydney 2000 or the relevant State Ecumenical Council.

Campus Crusade for Christ's film "Jesus" has been seen by 270 million viewers since its release in 1980. It is available in 105 languages and is targetted for 271 by

African governments should fight against the dumping of toxic waste on the continent by industrialised nations, Flt-Lt J.J. Rawlings, Chairman of Ghana's Provisional National Defence Council, has urged fellow Heads of State. It is about time, he said, that African leaders adopted a line of defence to fight against this insult to Afri-

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Obituaries are limited to 100

words in length. CANE, Esther Eunice

(1.6.88) Eunice (born 21.3.15) committed her life to Christ at an early age. Lovingly remembered as a Sunday School teacher, CE and Good Companions leader at the Kedron, Old, church; as Sister Cane at the Royal Brisbane Hospital, later at our churches mission hospital in Vanuatu; and as Matron of the Golden Age Retirement Village, Southport, Old, where she continued to serve in her retirement, editing the Village News, conducting devotions and working in the CWF (which she commenced while Matron).

Lovingly remembered by sister Lottie (Stevens), the families of her nieces and nephews and her many friends.

—J.A. Stevens

FERRIS, Fay

Born 1916 in Port Broughton, SA, Fay Kitto moved to Glenelg with her family. They were linked with the Glenelg church. Fay married Charles Ferris in 1938. Soon after they moved to Melbourne, attending the Lygon St and Bambra Rd churches. Settling in Beaumaris in 1951 they became involved at Cheltenham church. Fay, a gifted soprano, sang in the choirchoir leader from 1968-1986. Fay held many positions for the church including deaconess and convener of church visitors. Through her encouragement many joined the church, others undertook leadership roles. Sadly missed by her family, Charles, Wendy (Morris), Jan (Coleman), four grandchildren and by all her church family. -Gerald Rose ROWE, Arthur Edwin

Throughout his whole life Arthur was

Education recommendations approved



Executive members and State representatives at the Melbourne Conference.

involved with the Kaniva, Vc., church. Baptised in 1956, he was Sunday School teacher, lay preacher, minute secretary, deacon, later elder. As a music-lover he sang in choirs. He had a concern for the underprivileged. In 1963/64 he went to India under the Voluntary Assistance Scheme of the Church of South India, working at a boys' orphanage and a farm, training others. He took an active part in community affairs: Lions, Fire Brigade, Grain Elevators Board, Silo Committee, School Council, Hospital etc. A keen naturalist, farmer, breeder of stud sheep and goats. Through study he became very informed, his advice was sought by many. Sympathy is extended to his wife, Sanchia, children, Belinda, and Shawn, brothers, Gordon and Edwin and sisters, Jennifer and Lorraine.

-H.C. Wheaton

The annual meeting of the Federal Board of Christian Education held in Melbourne in late July approved important recommendations from the National Education Workshop held in 1987. These recommendations will be progressively implemented by the Board and State Departments as part of a strategy for the 1990s.

Areas included in the recommendations covered Family Life Education, Adult Education and Lay Training, and Children's Ministry.

Conference participants, including representatives from all departments, received reports of outstanding sales of recent Board publications. These included Build My Church, Basics and Effective Eldership. all of which have been reprinted. New publications tabled at the conference included Getting Along, Churches of Christ — A Move-

ment Within The Church, Your Baptism and a children's missionary project on Vanuatu. Other publications are in the course of production.

Mark Wilson of Western Australia presented a report on planning for the National Youth Convention to be held in Perth in January 1990. Details will shortly be available in Australian churches.

The Board is also sponsoring a visit by Jim Smoke of the USA in April 1989. Jim will lead various programs in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney for singles.

A report of the Board's activities has recently been circulated to all Australian congregations along with information about the Board's annual appeal for funds.

State Departments are currently considering important new directions for the Federal board in terms of role and forward planning for the 1990s.

CARLINGFORD COLLEGE

Additional material from Page 5. Who's New?

This year we had an influx of 20 new students: 18 from around Australia and two from Korea. Most of the states were represented, with Western Australia and Queensland each having three students, South Australia and Victoria two each, and eight from New South Wales. Ten of

the new students are married, most with at least one child. There are three single females and seven singlemales, including one who is engaged. 18 of the students plan to do the four-year course, either at Diploma or Degree level. One is doing a one-year course, and another a two-year Certificate course.

Field Education Director

At the beginning of 1989 Tim Hanna will commence a ministry at Carlingford as the Field Education Director. The Board sees this as a vital appointment as it believes the responsibility of the College is to train for full-time pastoral ministry. His appointment will enable the College to



introduce some new ideas in the area of practical training.

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CYC-RAM'88 team crosses sixth border

The Cycling Round Australia Marathon team of international and Australian cyclists crossed the border into Queensland on August 10, having covered 10,500 kms of their 16,000 km journey. It was a day of strong headwinds and choking red dust as they covered the last 160kms in the Northern Territory.

Eric Dodwell, Queensland's representative, was the winner of a six kilometre sprint to the border and said, "On long tedious stretches of highway I have calculated that I have lifted each knee 2.1 million times since the Marathon began in Canberra on May 7." In the first three months the team has had 123 punctures, one rider taking the record for six in one day.

During a visit to the Aborigines Inland Mission Church at Tennant Creek team members heard the Bible read to the Aboriginal congregation in the Krlol language.

The Bible Society in Australia has organised CYC-RAM for the



Michael Marston of Brisbane (left) and Colin Bowring of Perth attending to repairs

purpose of raising funds for the translation of scriptures into the languages of Australian Aboriginals and the people of the South Pacific. The Marathon will finish in Canberra on October 8. Tax-deductible donations may be forwarded to any Bible Society office, clearly marked "CYC-RAM '88".

CWF Ideas Market

CWF members were challenged by Pam Bowers at an 'Ideas Market' conducted by the Resource and Development Committee following September Council meeting in Melbourne. She challenged them to consider how people, prayer and programs are a vital part of CWF. She pointed out that people are most important and that friendship and belonging are crucial to CWF. In whatever we do there needs to be prayer. A good program is a bonus, but people

need to feel love, warmth and acceptance.

Joan Pye (Richmond), Nola Baker (Swanston St) and Claire Pilkington (Werribee), each representing groups of different ages, needs and community environment, shared ideas on how their groups were able to develop by adapting to the needs of the people in their own particular church, and by being a caring and outreach group to the community.

Ladies took part in small groups to discuss the programs

which had been most successful in their groups, why they had been successful and how their groups had reached out to others. All who attended left feeling motivated, encouraged and inspired to continue the ministry to women in their own church and community.

-Barbara Andrews

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Ten Major Trends Facing the World Church

What forces will shape the church's worldwide life and witness over the next 50 years? While we cannot predict the future with certainty, we can at least observe current trends and ask about their impact on the future.

I and my colleague, Daniel V. Runyon, set out to do this. We tried to look at the whole world scene, not just North America. In that perspective, it seems clear that the most dominant, shaping trend is what might be called the new internationalisation of the church—the emergence of the World Church.

1. From Regional Churches to World Church

The church has always considered herself 'universal', but today this is empirically true as never before. In the 20th century Christianity has become a global faith; the most universal religion in history. The church is said to be growing at the rate of some 65 new churches daily, mostly in the populous, poorer nations of the southern hemisphere. Today Christians number about one-third of all humanity and more than half the population in two-thirds of the world's 223 nations. The Christian church has become an amalgam of the world's races and people, with whites dropping from over 80% to about 40%.

What do these changes mean for the future? We shall likely see a World Church emerge that is much more diverse ethnically and culturally; exhibits a greater mutual respect for the leadership, styles, ministries and traditions of other Christian believers; is increasingly urban; and ministers more intentionally to the poor, oppressed and suffering.

2. From Scattered Growth to Broad Revival

New hope for revival in North America and Western Europe is being sparked by rapid church growth in places like Latin America, South Korea and Central Africa. The United States has seen a dramatic increase in Bible study groups, evangelisation programs and various kinds of religious education activities outside formal worship. These and other signs may point to a new spiritual awakening in North America, with perhaps something similar happening in Europe.

Elements of this resurgence include a 'third wave' or charismatic renewal reaching beyond the present Pentecostal and charismatic churches; other renewal currents in mainline denominations; a spiritual resurgence of Roman Catholicism; and new dialogue and fellowship among Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox believers. The growth of house churches and of 'power evangelism' churches may be seen as part of this anticipated new wave of revival.

3. From Communist China to Christian China

The Christian church has come alive powerfully in China over the past 10 years. While no-one knows for sure how large the church has grown, the Chinese Church Research Center in Hong Kong estimates 30 million Christians, which amounts to about 5% of the population and more than 50 times the number of believers 36 years ago when missionaries were expelled by the Communist revolution.

Today the Chinese church exists in three main groups: a somewhat fragmented Roman Catholicism, the officially recognised Three-Self Patriotic Movement and the house churches growing in the populous non-urban areas. The success of widespread lay leadership and house churches or other small groups, and the sheer numbers involved, suggest that the contemporary renewal in China is among the great Christian movements in history.

The Chinese church may provide sources of major new vitality, leadership and structural forms for the church worldwide. Chinese Christianity will also enrich the theology and self-understanding of the world church.

-Howard A. Snyder

4. From Institutional Tradition to Kingdom Theology

A world church touched by renewal will require a global theology—not a uniform theology for all places, but an understanding of the faith which is at once biblically faithful, functional for the growth and witness of local churches, and yet able to makes Christian sense of the world scene. Such a theology seems to be coalescing around themes of the reign or rule of God, stressing God's sovereign direction, despite and through human agency, in the course of world history.

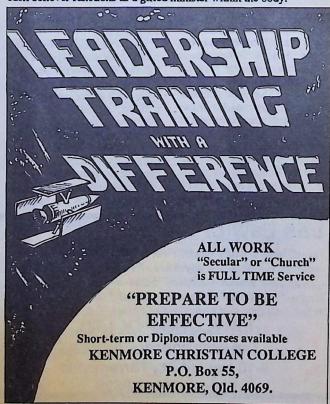
Increasingly, Christian thinkers are pointing out that the kingdom of God was prominent in Jesus' teaching and is a central category unifying biblical revelation. Kingdom theology speaks of justice in economic, political and social relationships and ecological harmony and balance throughout the creation. God as supreme Ruler and Friend of all will finally be worshipped and glorified by the whole creation.

Such a theology has wide-ranging implications for all areas of the church's life, including worship, fellowship or community, witness in evangelism, peace and justice and the church's relationship to political and economic powers.

5. From Clergy/Laity to Community of Ministers

A new model of pastoral leadership appears to be emerging in areas where the church is most dynamic and growing. This points to quite a different kind of church in the future. The New Testament pattern of each congregation being led by a group of spiritually mature leaders is receiving new emphasis. a long-term trend toward plural leadership, the ministry of all believers and the 'equipping' model of pastoral leadership appears to be emerging, especially outside the United States.

The equipping model, based especially on Ephesians 4:11-12, stresses the primary function of nurturing and leading the congregation so that each believer functions as a gifted minister within the body.



Ten Major Trends Facing the World Church —continued from page 22

6. From Male Leadership to Male/Female Partnership

In the last decade the North American church turned a historic, and probably irreversible, corner with a shift toward women as pastoral leaders on a par with men. Something parallel is happening, or probably will happen, worldwide in the church—eventually, probably even within Roman Catholicism.

The implications of this trend including the following:

1. The definition of the pastoral role will probably become broader and more flexible as women bring more variety, fresh ideas, differing perspectives and a broader range of leadership styles into church leadership.

2. The emphasis on community, informality and nurture in the church will increase.

3. Theologically and conceptually more women in church leadership will increase the tendency toward organic and ecological models of the world and the church.

4. More women in ministry may augment the trend toward 'lay' ministry and the equipping of believers.

7. From Secularization to Religious Relativism

The church has always faced the problem of how to be in the world yet not of it. But secularization comes in waves. Today the church faces a tidal wave, with many Christians in North America and Western Europe accommodating to values shaped more by the world than by the Gospel. Fortunately the picture is somewhat better in many areas of the Third World.

8. From Nuclear Families to Family Diversity

By and large, Protestant churches still assume the importance of the nuclear family (two parents, two or more children). Yet often that's not the primary population around them, especially in cities. In some places the traditional extended family pattern may be reaffirmed as a strong Christian option. Some of the multiple forms of shared living today are morally unacceptable to Christians, such as unmarried couples living together or so-called homosexual 'marriages'. But others are morally neutral. The challenge for the church will be to minister to this diversity without compromising the gospel.

9. From Church/State Separation to Christian Political Activism

Whatever their motivation, Christians today are becoming involved politically in increasing numbers. We expect, as as result, that Christian moral values may be restored to some extent in places where they have been eroding. In Latin America, the Philippines and South Korea Christians seem to be showing increased interest in the political process.

Conflicting views of church and state have been with us throughout history. At one level the struggle has been between the legitimate claims and powers of political and religious authority; at another the question is how to achieve a balance between spirituality and social and political involvement.

While most media attention in the United States has focused on such conservative New Right groups as the Moral Majority, not all Christian political efforts are on the side of political conservatism.

As Christian political involvement expands to include far-reaching issues such as foreign policy and the earth's resources, a crucial question is whether or not Christians can distinguish between kingdom priorities and narrowly nationalistic interests. The issue can be boiled down to this simple question: Will tomorrow's Christian be able to see, and persuade others to see, that the priorities of God's kingdom are ultimately more in one's own national (or ethnic or tribal) interests than are narrower, self-serving aims?

10. From Safe Planet to Threatened Planet

Despite volatile changes and regional conflicts since World War II, overall the globe has been relatively 'safe' compared with what we now see on the horizon. Three major world realities present new threats to humanity and the church, however. These dangers are so basic and potentially lethal that they constitute a historically unprecedented set of mega-dangers for all earth's people.

These realities are (1) the widening gap between rich and poor, (2) growing threats to our ecosphere, and (3) the dangers of nuclear armaments.

These issues present not a scenario for despair but simply the dimensions of the challenges facing the World Church.

Conclusion

Where do all these currents leave the church? First of all, these and related trends will require much more study and analysis. Some are clear and empirically validated; others are more questionable and may clash with significant counter-trends. But all represent areas of ferment or challenge for the church.

—This was adapted from a longer article in "World
Evangelization", a magazine of the Lausanne
Committee for World Evangelization

Love is ...

Faith is love linked to a promise.
Repentance is love sensitive to hurting.
Confession is love put into words.
Baptism is love expressed in drama.
Obedience is love with work boots on.
Prayer is love being intimate.
Praise is love exalted in song.
Worship is love united with lovers
Love is commitment to Calvary's love.

-R.N. Hawkins

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COMPETITION

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Evangelism leader welcomed to Melbourne



August 19 marked the beginning of a two-week visit to Australia by Herb Miller, Executive Director of the Disciples of Christ National Evangelistic Association. Herb Miller (above centre) is seen being welcomed to his first event by Gerald Rose (right), President of the Vic-Tas Conference, and Dr Cliff Warmbrunn, Chairman of the Department of Mission, Education and Development.

Herb delivered the Warmbrunn Memorial Lectureship at the Nunawading church. His theme was "Fire From the Altar". On the Saturday he led over 100 church representatives in a training seminar on local church development and evangelism themes.

An audio tape of the lecture is available from the Department at \$4, plus postage.

During the following week Herb was the guest consultant at a national evangelism consultation at Stanwell Tops. On the following Saturday he repeated the church development seminar at Northside Community Church in Sydney. He left Australia on September 1 after what has been recognised as a most significant visit.

Young at Hearts

At the Hurstville, NSW, church a monthly news sheet, "Concern", is distributed by the Young at Hearts, a group which has developed for those 55 years of age and over. With the lowering of the retirement age we felt that there was a need for concern for these people. 30 are enrolled in the group.

Our aim is to provide interest and fulfilment. We organise functions, financing them, and various programs which we support, by a monthly donation of one dollar per person. We also manufacture lamingtons.

Once a month we have a games and bowls night, an outing and an afternoon meeting following a bowls morning and BYO lunch. We organise concert parties for two of our retirement villages and

encourage each 'young at heart' to have a concern for the others.

There is a need for more such groups. Some ways they could be encouraged are:

—church conferences who control camp sites could, for a period of time during the 'off' season, allow retired people access to their facilities free of charge:

—churches could organise a 'young at hearts' week each year.

-R.A. Souness

IS YOUR MINISTER
ATTENDING THE
NATIONAL MINISTERS' SEMINAR,
CANBERRA,
JANUARY 12 — 15

Pastor wanted

A special pastor is needed for a special church. Situated at Marble Bar (200km east of Port Hedland), in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, this unique church has been established for just on three years.

The situation calls for someone experienced at ministering in a cross-cultural situation and with an understanding of, and love for, Aboriginal people. It requires someone to further consolidate the work commenced by the present pastor and his wife in the areas of developing church leadership, community development and counselling, as well as continuing the outreach program.

The large, comfortable manse is situated 5km from the town. Pending connection to the State Electricity grid, the manse has its own generating plant which requires necessary maintenance.

Ross and Helen Norling (presently ministering) are leaving in December to take up a position elsewhere, so the position must be filled soon thereafter.

The Marble Bar church is conducted in association with the Federal Aborigines Board, which supplies support and backup as required.

The Board is anxious to hear from anyone who may be interested in the style of ministry the Marble Bar church requires. Inquiries should be addressed to the Federal Aborigines Board Office, PO Box 267, Mt Lawley WA 6050 (phone (09) 272 1433).

CWF Southern Bayside Conference

Our annual Conference was held at the Parkdale, Vic., church on August 31. With an attendance of 80 ladies, six of the churches in our Conference were represented.

Marianne Peemoeller of Parkdale presided. The worship segment was led by Gwenda Mathleson. Lillian Blackmore and Mavis House presented a duet.

We were privileged to have our State President, Lois Smith to bring a greeting, with Phyl Davis, both representing CWF Execu-

Marilyn Hinton was the guest speaker. She told of her call to ministry after serving as a team member with Christian Youth Travel. We continue to support Banmatmat Bible College in Vanuatu. A brochure was prepared outlining some of the work there. This year we have forwarded \$500 to the Overseas Mission Board for water tanks at the College. Five kilograms of sweets have been sent to be shared among staff and students and their families.

As Helen Hall indicated she wished to retire as Secretary/Treasurer, Win Lee of Cheltenham CWF was appointed to this position and we know that Win will carry out her duties with ability and enthusiasm. Thanks are expressed to all who took part in Conference.

-Helen Hall

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·Percy Jordan, Boronia, Vic.

Changes of Address

NORLANE: Secretary — Mrs B. Lowcock, 6 Moyston Drive, Corio, Vic. 3214. Phone (052) 75 1338.

PERTH: Minister — George Powell, 73 Raglan Road, Mount Lawley, W.A. 6050. Phone (09) 328 9892.

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ARE YOU AN INNOVATIVE CHURCH LOOKING FOR A MINISTER? Are you keen to find new ways to communicate with a changing Australia? Are you looking for a biblical and progressive pastor/teacher with creative ideas for Church Growth. I am a family man with diverse training and experience in several cultures. I would be interested in considering ministry in your church. Address correspondence to: The Minister, C/- "The Australian Christian", PO Box 101, Essendon North 3041.

als advertisement 49 Bond St, Ringwood 3134 CO-ORDINATOR Inner City Community School

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OVERSEAS SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

World Vision is seeking experienced professionals to be involved in a ministry serving Christ and the poor in 1989.

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These positions require French-speaking ability.

MOZAMBIQUE

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(For which Portuguese or Spanish fluency is required.)
You would be part of an international team involved in organising relief programs. Applicants should have previous third world experience and be

prepared to undertake the assignment for one to two years. Those interested in further details should contact

Elaine Ford—Overseas Personnel Administrator on (03) 699 8522.



POSITIONS AVAILABLE 1989 ZIMBABWE

Teacher/Chaplain

In partnership with the Associated Churches of Christ in New Zealand we are seeking to appoint a teacher of Divinity to Dadaya High School in Zimbabwe. The school is co-educational, with around 800 students.

All subjects are examined under English O levels standard.

A degree in theology is a necessary prerequisite.

The position also involves Chaplaincy duties in the school. There are also opportunities to be involved in leadership training in local churches.

VANUATU

French/English teacher

Ranwadi Junior Secondary School on Pentecost island in Vanuatu is also a co-educational boarding school. Ranwadi has around 150 students. Formal teaching qualifications are essential. A key part of this task is to exercise a Christian witness among the student body.

For further information please write to:

Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board, PO Box 320, Unley 5061. A Conference of Churches

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Miss Dorothy Geyer

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33 years of service in India

CHELTENHAM CHURCH OF CHRIST

Corner Chesterville Road and Nepean Highway

on

Friday 23 September 1988

at

8.00 pm

Conference President, Gerald Rose and Christian Women's Fellowship President, Lois Smith, invite representation from all of our churches as we give thanks to God.

WA

KALAMUNDA (Tim Hanna, Mark Proud, Dean Smith) Preparations in hand for World Mission week, October 23-30, guest speaker Daryl Kernick, Australian Director of Wycliffe ... Tim Hanna guest speaker at Geraldton's faith mission giving program ... Rehearsals for 'Son of Man' musical progressing well, performance dates November 11 and 12 ... Home Fellowship groups leading monthly services at Wundowie ... Claire Cook in Brisbane with YWAM at Expo's Pavilion of Promise.

WEMBLEY DOWNS (John Somerville) Fellowship with members of Aboriginal South West Church participating in morning service a joyous experience ... John & Margaret Somerville leaving September 8 for two months' ministry in Christchurch, NZ ... Series of adult education electives on personal Christian growth & world Christian action well attended; also visiting speaker from Gideons.

CARNARVON (Donald Bone)
Counselling classes are under way for a crusade planned for late
October ... Activities in August were fellowship & outreach meetings for the men & the ladies & a church picnic on the river ... Rex Ugle of Cumbardigoo Fellowship has a spot on local radio weekly ... Jarred Dimmer, bass guitarist, is travelling with Aboriginal Evangelical Crusade team in SA & Oueensland.

WARWICK (G. Carslake, B. Eagles, R. Mason, L. Sara, L. Devlin). Robert Mason has joined

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"The Australian Christian"
in its ministry among Churches of
Christ?

Why not include us in your will?
The following wording could be used in your will:

I give and bequeath \$ (or a percentage of the total estate) to "The Australian Christian", the national journal of Churches of Christ In Australia, absolutely for the use and benefit of the organisation free from all debts, funeral and testamentary expenses.

our staff as minister to youth ... Bruce Eagles is in Korea with the International Christian Sports Congress ... Three senior basketball teams & one netball team won grand finals ... Youth ministry team has conducted services at Bunbury & Alexander Heights ... Divorce Recovery Camp held with help from Andy Stout of Family Law Counselling Service ... Six families farewelled to join the new cause at Alexander Heights.

SA

BALAKLAVA (Grahan Lawrle). Rodney Minicon inspirational Aboriginal leader at Halbury Youth Camp ... Taped services made regularly for Alec Good & Art Mutter, Nursing Home residents ... Brenton Clark greatly appreciated prayer service as he undergoes chemotherapy. Claire Coveney has had prayer & practical help following leg amputation ... Colin & Marj Dredge visited on August 1.

MZM

ALBURY (Rod Foster) Several attended the Dann Spader Youth Seminar, Herb Miller Magnetic Church Seminar and a 'Walk Through the New Testament' recently ... Newcomers dinner, featuring La'el Music Company, attracted 45 ... Photos, anecdotes & experiences exchanged during recent Expo lunch ... Film "Israel-Land of Promise" shown at Bible Study ... Preparations underway for Annual General Meeting & Effective Parenting Course ... Ladies camp planned. MAITLAND (R.N. Hawkins). Excellent dinner date in Aug. with

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Bill Petersen from Manchester Importing Company ... Stuart Gyngell, 1986 Bronze Medallist at Edinburgh Commonwealth Games, guest speaker at Friday Family Festival. Also at Saturday "Inspiration Breakfast" ... Speakers whilst minister fulfilling Conf Pres appointments — D. MacPherson (Tahlee), J. Armstrong (Campus Life) & N. Aubrey (Taree).

ZAT

LAUNCESTON (Gordon Stirling) National Conference of Girls' Brigade held in Launceston. Helen Peart carried the Queen's Colour & other of our members deeply involved in programs ... Rob Robinson on overseas business trip for a month ... Grandfather, father & two sons of Reader family interviewed on 28 August about Bike for Bibles program in October ... Special prayer meeting September 7 for the safety of missionaries in PNG.

QLD

REDCLIFFE (A.C. Risson)
Church involved in Pavilion of
Promise preparation for Expo—
Sue O'Gorman a hostess ... Marriage Seminar with Jim & Grace
Vive ... Young people taking part
in home service & services in
other churches ... Church shared
in combined churches George &
Rita Galieh Crusade—blessing
shared by our church ... Christmas in July service speaker, Lyle
Morris. Gifts collected to be given
to children in mission centre.

VIC

RED HILL (Ken Clinton). Church rejoicing in confession of faith & baptism of David Sale ... August 28 10 am special service when Bible School students featured in items. This service was

L.C.F. Higgins

Chartered

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362 8619

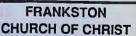
followed by a well attended luncheon & presentation to show our sincere appreciation to Ian & Glenys Cartmel & family for their seven & a half year ministry at Red Hill.

Britain is at present the country with the largest Islamic population in Europe. It has 2.52 million practising Moslems. France has 2.5 million, Germany 2 million and the rest of Western Europe has 500,000. Latest statistics show that 12,000 have converted to Islam in Britain.

An Australian Bureau of Statistics proposal to delete the question on religious affiliation from the 1991 Census appears unlikely to be withdrawn, despite very strong representations from all major churches.

Baptists have been given the go ahead to explore the possibility of establishing a lay training academy in Hungary. Baptist officials are enthusiastic with the concept as an alternativo to lilegal training provided in various underground ways.

The largest gathering of Jewish Christians in Israel occurred in Jerusalem at Pentecost when 1,000 gathered. There are about 30 Jewish Christian congregations in Israel, many of whom are involved with Arab Christians in a prayer group and evangelistic outreaches.





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MIC

CHADSTONE (Peter Bradley)
Recent speakers: G. Fricker
(Mayor of Waverley) & Philip
Bradley (minister's brother from
WA) ... Christmas dinner in July,
55 in attendance ... Minister, H.
Whittaker, M. Patterson, R. Braid
participated in weekend worship
seminar at Monash University ...
H. Whittaker provided new sign
for front of church ... Third son to
Christine & Allan Cooney ...
Concern for Cliff Bowman's
health.

BORONIA (Kelth Milne, Mike Folland) Church deeply saddened by death of elder emeritus Percy Jordan ... Recent survey re worship times showed most people prefer times to remain as they are ... Cecil Grant, minister Wodonga, guest preacher both services this year's Spring Festival ... Junior Explorers won section of Indoor Sports Championships, Intermediate 3rd in their section ... CWF visited Oakleigh Guest Home ... Book Club commenced

CROYDON (W. Gibney) On 7.8.88 Brian Jacques & Michael Dunne shared in music & testimony... Musical group 'Frontier' led our evening worship on 28.8.88 when our own band wasinvited to the Wattle Park Gospel Chapel ... Increased giving in recent weeks is both a challenge & an encouragement ... Mrs Ratten received into membership on transfer from Robinvale ... Church preparing for 115th anniversary in October.

MT CLEAR (Philip Stevens) Elders conducted church visitation program ... Evening services have included a youth service, 'Church in the Home,' hospitality nights & 'bring-a-friend' nights ... Sunday School recommenced in July ... Plans well in hand for November 6 celebration of first 12 months in new complex & 125 years witness in Mt Clear. Guest speaker will be Conference President Gerald Rose.

MONTROSE (N. Galbralth)
Morning worship average attendance 140 ... Fortnightly winter
evening services at 5pm ... Cabaret music program, soup & sandwiches served ... Address marked
bicentenary of Alexander

Campbell's birth ... Won Joon Pak, from Korea, Vic. Bible College student, speaker at two services ... Fellowship tea for Megan Olney & Stephen Turner ... Young people organised disco ... Board held planning session & study on eldership, with Dr W. Tabbernee ... Up to 18 children attending play group.

NUNAWADING (E. Keating, J. Wright, S. Ludgater, C. Bentley) Guest speakers Marjorie Buckingham, Herb Miller ... Linda Smith, (Wollongong) new youth worker ... \$1,000 donated for distribution of Bibles ... Kerygma Bible studies held weekly ... Old Time Music Hall raised \$400 for International Needs ... Couples Communication session with Brian White ... Four netball teams premiers ... Five fellowship suppers during September ... Visitation teams involved in Monday night outreach ... Two welcome dinners for newcomers.

MILDURA (David Ratten)
New foyer nearing completion—
official opening October 2 ...
AGM agreed to increase ministry
team by early 1989; three-year
term for elders ... New deacons:
Janice Renfree, Chris Clugston ...
Worship attendances remain
high, 40 new chairs added to
chapel, seating now 230 ... Kaleidoscope to present "First Love" in
Arts Theatre, September 16,17 ...
1,000 Bibles to be distributed for
Good News Australia.

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FEDERAL CONFERENCE

God's People - God's World—Reflections

Want to know who were the daughters of Zelophehad? (You'll be one up on me-I can't even pronounce it!). Anyway, seems like they had grit and determination. Ever heard of the Church Auxiliary for Social Action? Edna Vawser has.

Want to share in others' insights into family life, unemployment, terminal illness, divorce, ministry, living standards and what Churches of Christ teach? Then you need a copy of "God's People - God's World: Daily Reflections of Inspiration". This little booklet has been published by the Australian Christlan Women's Fellowship, with 31 short devotional reflections contributed by church members from all over Australia.

Copies may be obtained from ACWF, C/-82 Limestone Ave, Ainslie ACT 2602, at a cost of \$2 plus 80 cents postage, or from your State CWF Executive.

You can govern men only by serving them. The rule is without exception.

Sign spotted on a London bus: "Owing to

the energy shortage there will be no last

女女女女女

文文文文文 Things are getting so bad in my neigh-

bourhood that one gangster does all his

hold-ups in the daylight. He's afraid to be out on the street at night with all that

**** From the US Federal Aviation Administration regulations: "An applicant must have had 20 hours of solo flight time, of which at least 10 were in an airplane." **** I'm a little worried about this year's income tax. I think I made it out wrong. I've

**** "Is this one of your silly abstract paint-

Notice in the maternity ward of a Mel-

"I drink 50 cups of coffee a day."

"Doesn't that keep you awake?"

bus on this route."

"It helps."

money.

got 42 cents left.

"No, that's a mirror!"

ings?"

à -Victor Cousin

Canberra takes Sydney by storm

No, that's not the headline from last week's rugby league results. But it is (almost) the story of a lightning visit to Sydney recently by members of the Federal Conference 1989 Arrangements Committee.

Led by Conference President Nell Gilmore, five intrepid Canberrans spent August 28 telling members of nine Sydney churches all about Federal Conference 1989.

Much interest was expressed in various aspects of the Conference program, particularly in the forward-looking focus, the electives and workshops and the National Youth Forum. One church even applauded Neil Gilmore as he left-Neil's still trying to decide whether this was in appreciation or out of relief!

One thing is sure. Federal Conference 1989 is



Nell Gilmore, Kevin Caulton and Bruce Kennedy setting out for Sydney

GOOD NEWS: PRICES COME DOWN

We are delighted to announce that the cost of Federal Conference 1989 accommodation and meals at the Australian National University in Canberra has been reduced. Previously we had been advised of, and had announced, a single rate of \$50 per day for dinner, bed and breakfast, for everyone. Now we can announce the following rates: a special rate of \$35 per day for pensioners and students; a rate of \$45 per day for all others

In addition, a seven-night stay entitles you to

one of those nights free. So register now! Registration forms are available from church secretaries, State Conference Offices, Federal Conference Executive or the Arrangements Committee. (See also form on Page 15).

Please note, too, that the date by which registrations should be received has been extended beyond 30 September 1988, but we would appreciate you getting them in as a matter of urgency. Inquiries to Kevin Bray, phone (062) 72 3447 (B) or (062) 51 2087 (H).

"Visitor per pat	sHusband ient."	ds only. O	ne person
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* "WE don't have a menu. If you don't smell it, we haven't got it."

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